



Southeast News

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The 1987 Christmas Fund

for the Veterans
of the Cross and the
Emergency Fund

The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross provides help for retired ministers in need, and assists United Church of Christ ministers who face hardship. The Christmas Fund is one way we show that we care about our clergy and their families.

When your church receives the annual Christmas Fund offering, remember the "blessed...servants" who have been a part of your life and your family's life.

Your generous contribution to the Christmas Fund will be appreciated.

THANKSGIVING IN NICARAGUA?

Yes, Nicaragua is where Rev. David Loar will be for the last two weeks in November. The Alabama-Tennessee Coordinator and Pastor of The Church of the Good Shepherd in Crossville, TN, will be with a Witness for Peace ecumenical delegation from the southeast U.S..

They will interview church people (both Protestant and Catholic), and government and opposition people, U.S. embassy representatives - and spend a week in the area of the country where recent fighting has occurred, to interview citizens affected by the war, and to see first-hand its results. He will be available to speak to any group when he returns.

DR. DAVID BEEBE LEAVING PILGRIM CHURCH IN CHATTANOOGA - to accept a position as Associate for Program in Education for the Stewardship Council of the U.C.C. in the St. Louis office.

In January, David and Judy will move to St. Louis, where David will serve as a Biblical and theological scholar and writer for the Stewardship Council and national offices. This is a great loss for Pilgrim Church as well as the Southeast Conference.

Our sincere CONGRATULATIONS to the Beebes, and may God's richest blessings go with you always. You will be sorely missed!

DR. DAVID GREENHAW - former interim pastor at First E & R in Nashville, has been elected to the Executive Committee of the Board for Homeland Ministries of the UCC.

David will be filling this office in addition to teaching and giving lectures at Vanderbilt University Theology School.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES!

THE REV. ED DAHMER - former Executive Director of Uplands Retirement Village, has accepted the position of Executive Director of St. Paul House Corp. in Chicago. This is a U.C.C. related retirement and nursing home complex.

A special reception for the Dahmers was held in Heritage Hall on Sept. 29. They moved to Chicago the first of October.

We wish them well, and know they will be missed at Uplands.

AROUND THE CONFERENCE

ALABAMA-TENNESSEE ASSOCIATION - 22nd Annual

Meeting was held Sept. 18-19, in Fairfield, Glade, TN, hosted by Fairfield Glade Community Church; pastor the Rev. Wolfgang Koehler. Church Board President, Mr. Don Owen, was greeter, and the Rev. David Loar, Coordinator of the Association led the opening worship service.

Three churches were recognized for their accomplishments in the past year: Murfreesboro UCC Fellowship, First United Church of Sweetwater, TN, and St. John's UCC of Cullman, AL.

Keynote Speaker, the Rev. Peggy Way, spoke on "Care-giving". Dr. George Neely, Executive Vice-President of Fisk University, was the evening speaker.

The Moderator, Rev. Daniel Rosemergy reported that emphasis has been on commitment to youth, new church development and ecumenical partnership with the Disciples of Christ denomination.

Dr. Emmett O. Floyd, retiring Conference Minister, expressed his appreciation for friendship and support.

The 1988 meeting will be in Sweetwater, TENN at First United Church of Christ.

NORTH ALABAMA ASSOCIATION - met on October 3rd, at the Union Grove Church in Haleyville, AL, where the Rev. Larry Bass is pastor.

Rev. Roger Loosier was elected Moderator; Mr. Billy Burden, Vice Moderator; Ms. Eva Shelton, Secretary-Treasurer.

Conference Minister, Emmett O. Floyd, brought the sermon, and Associate Conference Minister, Warren A. Blankenhorn, installed the new officers.

Ms. Eva Shelton and Ms. Lela Terry were presented special Christian Education awards.

SOUTH ALABAMA-NORTHWEST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION

MET ON October 10th, at Antioch Church in Andalusia, AL.; the Rev. Mr. Ronald Sturgis, Pastor.

The Rev. Mr. Larry Crook from Blackwood Congregational Christian Church, was elected Moderator; Rev. Ronald Sturgis, Vice Moderator; and Ms. Janet Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer.

Conference Minister, Emmett O. Floyd and the Rev. Dr. Richard Sales were the speakers. Associate Conference Minister, Warren A. Blankenhorn, led the Communion Service and installed the new officers.

EAST ALABAMA ASSOCIATION - 55th Annual Meeting

was held in the beautiful new North Main Congregational Christian Church in Roanoke, AL, on Saturday, Oct. 17. The theme was "Partners in Ministry."

(continued, next column)

Attending Officers were Mr. Arthur Dailey, Moderator; The Rev. Mr. Roy Bain, Vice Moderator; Mrs. Florence Dollar, Secretary; Conference Minister, Emmett O. Floyd and Associate Conference Minister, Warren A. Blankenhorn.

Host pastor, the Rev. James E. Lauderdale, extended the official greetings. Guest speaker was Dr. Stewart Johnson from LaGrange, GA.

Reports were given by Rev. Blankenhorn, Rev. Bain, Ms. Louise Cox, Ms. Beth Washburn, Mr. Jimmy Pilkington, and Ms. Travis Moon.

The 56th Annual Meeting will be on October 15, 1988, at Lanett Congregational Church.

CENTRAL ALABAMA ASSOCIATION - met on Sunday, October 18, at the East Tallassee Church in Alabama; the Rev. Kenneth Keppel, Pastor.

Conference Minister Emmett O. Floyd, and Associate Conference Minister, Warren A. Blankenhorn, were present to speak.

Mrs. Wayne Burton was elected Moderator; Ms. Wilma Pemberton, Vice-Moderator; Ms. Barbara Taylor, Secretary-Treasurer, and Ms. Challis Rhodes, Member-at-Large to the Southeast Conference.

GEORGIA-SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION--

held its 18th Annual Meeting in Lilburn, GA, at Button Gwinnett United Church of Christ; the Rev. Dr. John Terry, Pastor.

Keynote Speaker, Mr. Faith Evans, from the Office for Church in Society, in Washington, D.C., spoke on the theme for the meeting, "Walk Together Children."

Rev. Donald Nelson was elected Moderator; the Rev. Dr. Marvin Morgan, Vice Moderator; Mr. Mike Johnson, Treasurer; Ms. Nancy Sales, Secretary; and Dr. Erna Bryant, SE Conference Representative. Conference Minister, Emmett O. Floyd, installed the new officers.

The 1988 meeting will be in Thomasville, GA, at the Beachton Evergreen Congregational Church on October 28th and 29th.

OBITUARY

Many friends throughout the Conference were saddened over the death of Dr. A. R. Van Cleve, longtime dean of Southern Union College in Wadley, as well as the pastor of the Congregational Church in Wadley for more than thirty years.

Affectionately called "Dr. Van", he was ordained by the Congregational Christian Church in 1932. He died Sept. 24 - close to his 98th birthday. Our sympathy is extended to his wife and family and many friends.

CONFERENCE CORNER

Since this will be my last column in the role of Conference Minister, let me thank everyone for the privilege I have had the last seven and one-half years. To serve the variety of churches and committees represented in our fellowship has been a real challenge and pleasure. Our ministers and lay members are among the finest Christians I know, and it has been a highlight of my ministry to represent you in the wider circles of the United Church of Christ.

During this meaningful and joyous season of Thanksgiving-Advent-Christmas, it is appropriate to remember the special ways we have been blessed by the Grace and Visitation of God. Among the ways that God uses to reveal that powerful love to us is through the instrumentality of other people.

In this season of "Holy-Days", we remember especially those persons who have meant the most to us in our lives, including those already gone to their eternal habitations.

But certainly, one of the best gifts of God is the friends who are sent to bless and encourage us along the journey of life. Friends in church who share not only common interests and experiences, but a common faith in and devotion to our Lord, are remembered during these days.

I shall continue to remember you not only in this special season, but in other days to come. I predict a great future for the people and churches of the Southeast Conference in the years ahead.

May God continue to bless and guide and keep all of us in that Eternal Heart and in the hearts of one another.

May Joy, Love and Peace abide with you all.

Emmett O. Floyd

EVANGELISM FOCUS, FEB. 1 & 2, SEMINAR AT EDEN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, IN ST. LOUIS....Rev. Robert L. Burt, General Secretary, Div. of Evangelism and Local Church Development, United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, will receive an honorary doctorate degree. Workshops, lectures presented. Tuition \$45.00, with limited campus housing; 1 dinner, 2 lunches included. Contact: Office of Continuing Education, Eden Theological Seminary, 475 East Lockwood Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63119...or call (314) 961-3627.

N-E-W-S and N-O-T-E-S

FROM KATHRYN CARPENTER, NOON DAY CHURCH IN Wedowee, Alabama....Women's Fellowship held its organizational meeting and elected the following officers: Ms. Nelda Bishop, Pres.; Ms. Vera Hopkins, Vice Pres.; Ms. Carolyn Smith, Secretary-Treasurer; and Ms. Kathryn Carpenter, Reporter.

Kathryn also sent the East Alabama report!

MS. DORA BRACKIN REPORTS FROM BLACKWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN HEADLAND, AL.

Continued new growth in members as well as in benevolent contributions are very positive signs. The Rev. Larry Crooks, Pastor, is making good recovery following last fall's heart surgery, for which everyone is very grateful. Also, Rev. Crook has just been elected Moderator of the South Alabama-North west Florida Association, and the congregation looks forward to supporting him in this new endeavor.

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

LANGDALE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN UCC CALLS

The Rev. Herbert Young, formerly Associate Pastor at St. John's in Cullman, Alabama.

Rev. Young began this new ministry on November 1st, after moving to Langdale with his wife, Carol and their two children, Chad and Michelle. They have all been warmly welcomed.

Our warmest best wishes and CONGRATULATIONS to the Youngs and the Langdale congregation.

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We also join with the Langdale congregation in saying "THANK YOU" and praying God's blessings for the ministry of the Rev. John Schofield, who served for ten years as the interim pastor!

Rev. Schofield and his wife, Evalée, are shining examples of having been married for more than 55 years! God bless you always!

FIRST UNITED CHURCH, BELVIDERE, TN, NAMES INTERIM PASTOR - the Rev. Donald W. Scovill from Pleasant Hill, TN. This new ministry began November 1st.

Rev. Scovill and his wife, Eleanor, live in Retirement Village, and are involved in the Wharton Nursing Home Library, Christian Ed. Committee and Audio/Visual Committee of the Pleasant Hill Community Church.

CHILDREN WHO ARE POOR

"Who speaks for the Children?"...a series of five regional meetings, one to be in Atlanta, in our Conference in January. In February, in Washington, D.C., there will be a national consultation.

We hope UCC people will participate.....
Contact: Dianne Smalley - (404)696-0261.

"WE CANNOT BE SILENT" - filmstrip on Latin America.

Contact the Conference Office or Rev. Joyce Myers in the OCLL Office.

WOMEN'S MITE (Might) SCHOLARSHIP FUND

MANY THANKS to those who have already sent contributions...(24 groups and individuals). Because of your generosity, we were able to award scholarships to all who applied. .05¢ a day is \$18.25 per year - but any amount is accepted! It is not too late to send in your Mite.

Next summer we need to send 3 delegates to the First Assembly of the Coordinating Center for Women in Indiana. Please support this new effort!

The Commission's philosophy is that it is enough for women to donate their time and energy (even missing work days or using vacation time to attend a function) without asking them to pay their own way!

Scholarships are available to individuals to help them attend any UCC meeting. Scholarships are partial only, (up to 50% of the cost), but the committee may make awards greater than 50%, based on individual needs.

Erna Bryant, our able chairperson for 2 years, has had to resign for personal reasons. We thank her for her enthusiasm and hard work in getting this program started. We welcome our new chairperson who is:

Ms. Ernestine P. Holiday, 2533 Shreeve Lane, Nashville, TN. 37207. (615/ 227-6360).

Pontius' Puddle



PLEASE NOTE: An error was made in our last Women's report. The amount used to help send our Chairperson to Synod was \$75.00 - NOT \$344.25.

NEXT WOMEN'S REGIONAL RETREAT TO BE IN FLA.

The Women's Regional Retreat in Monteagle, TENN was a great success, with 77 women attending from the S.E. Conference!

The next Regional Retreat will be in a center near Orlando - in October, 1989.

Our women will still be involved in the planning!

We especially thank Ginny McCamey for all her hard work in getting everyone registered!

WOMEN'S WORK WEEK AT HABITAT (Almost)

It Almost happened! Five women were going.one had to drop out to attend S.E. Conference Board meeting....one hurt her ankle, and so there were just 3! Habitat asked us to try again next April.....More about that later.

MANY THANKS to you who responded and tried to make it happen.....and to Jackie Coleman who was Registrar and did a lot of work!

...Dorothea Bowling, Coordinator
Commission on Women in Church & Society, SE
Conference, U.C.C..

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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